

## WHY ME? – Sample Chapter

This is a powerful excerpt from the early chapters of 'Why Me? My Fight for Life' by David M. Armstrong. It captures the emotional turning point where a young boy begins to spiral into survival mode after abandonment, abuse, and loss—yet still clings to the tiniest thread of hope.

Some of us have very early childhood memories, and well, some of us have mentally blocked out a lot of our childhood experiences for various reasons. Maybe as a defense mechanism... I can't remember much before my father left the house when I was about seven years old...

He grabbed the bags, and that was it. That was the last time I laid eyes on my father. Did I not deserve to have a father in my life?... Abandonment is a horrible feeling...

Although I have a few good childhood memories of my mother and me, there aren't very many after my father left... As I grew older, kids would laugh and make fun of her, mumbling or imitating her speech... I began not wanting to be in public with her.

Then came Russel. At first he seemed kind, but soon after moving in, he became abusive—to my mother, and then to me. He would hit me, leave knots on my head, and even have his friends hold me down while he punched me. One day I swung a bat at him to protect my mom. I missed his head... but that was the beginning of everything falling apart.

My mom began to drink. I turned to the streets. Gangs felt more like home than my own family. I wasn't even a teenager yet.

Young men and women often turn to the streets or drugs because of their home environment. Neglect, abuse, abandonment from a loved one is hard to deal with, especially at such a young and impressionable age...

This is just the beginning of Sensei Dave's powerful story. Download the full book to see how one young boy went from forgotten to fearless—and learn how you can help others do the same.